

Cancelled Pioneer Prelims Reset Tomorrow

Bay Cindermen Qualify Tuesday

The Fearless Spectator
By
Charles McCabe, Esquire



When the big news of the early baseball season is the hipster caterwauling of a long-haired tomcat named Bo Belinsky, who may or may not marry a super annuated blonde starlet, and who may or may not be able to play baseball, then it's time perhaps to reflect on the role of the nut in the Nat'l Pastime.

The game owes an enormous debt to its eccentrics. Nobody remembers who the first guy was who slud into third, but who can forget the coinage? And the coiner—the artistic Dizzy Dean, who has enriched English almost as much as the Reverend Spooner.

When Mr. Walter O'Malley is running the First Celestial Bank in Heaven (with his law firm acting as legal counsel), the fans below will have forgotten him, hard adobe infield and all—but they will still be talking about that other banker, Mr. Casey Stengel.

More than any other sport, baseball seems to attract the deviants, the shortstops and southpaws who march to the music of a different drummer.

A connoisseur of the type is Mr. Harold Rosenthal, a drily witty chap who writes baseball for the New York Herald-Tribune. He has put together for Christmas publication a lively tome entitled, "They Did It Differently."

It deals with the off-oxen of sports. The likes of Hack Wilson, Dizzy Dean, Billy Loes, Bobo Holloman, Art Shires, Babe Ruth, Chilly Doyle, Jorge Pasquel (the Mexican who almost ruined baseball), Moe Berg and Casey Stengel. And others, in and out of baseball.

He will also treat of a special, fascinating genre—dames who are impelled to shoot ballplayers. Sluggophobia, I think it's called.

One reason the oddballs cling to our memory like stale bubble gum to a movie seat is the effectiveness of the backdrop against which they operate.

Organized baseball could be called organized hypocrisy. The owners are in it for precisely the same honorable reason the sausage makers make sausage: To collect pesos and send Bridget to Smith.

Yet they ain't about to admit it. As gamblers on horses claim they want to improve the breed, and as lads who kill birds with guns claim to be conservationists, the baseball owners—with rare exceptions—like to pretend that money is a dirty, five-letter word.

They're in the game, they imply, to save it for the kids of America, and to place before them a gallery of exemplars who will teach 'em how to go to bed early and earn lotsa scratch when they grow up.

Player-owner labor relations are so primitive in baseball that the American Civil Liberties Union, not to speak of the district attorney, should have been on the clubs' backs these past decades.

But the owners' con is so formidably convincing that most people accord them the respect given by a greengrocer to the cop on the beat as he steals an apple. (Do cops steal apples anymore?)

But the character is real, from Rube Marquard to Bo Belinsky. He's just what he seems to be. Most of them, curiously, have not been notably interested in money. And nearly all of them liked baseball, or whatever their game was, for its own sake.

Against the background of mealy-mouthed owners, and colorless college men who cram on the Kiplinger Letter and worry about their income property, the nutsies shine like a good deed in a naughty world.

In the preposterous climate of baseball, the nuts are almost growing real. They say the first thing that comes into their heads, and thereby violate the first law of organized (or owner-type) baseball.

They drink and use naughty words and chase girls. Just like other people, excepting baseball owners, of course.

North Snares Diamond Tie

When the breaks finally fell to North on Thursday, the Saxons horseholders took full advantage of them to tie the Morningside, 6-6, in a Bay League tussle.

North, behind 6-0 going into the sixth innings, took advantage of errors, walks, wild pitches, and a hit batter to force six runs across and knot the count.

The game was called after eight innings due to darkness, but will not be replayed since it will not affect the standings for a CIF berth.

USUALLY classy Bob Dell

Beverly Hosts Tartars, West

With rain suddenly an added opponent, track teams from Torrance and West will return to Beverly Hills High School tomorrow at 12:30 p.m. for the Pioneer League preliminaries. The prelims were originally set for last Friday, but rain forced cancellation. Field events will begin at 12:30 p.m. with running events starting 15 minutes later.

Hawthorne Nods SHS On Shutout

Remaining one game ahead in the tight Bay League horsehide chase, Hawthorne blanked South, 4-0, on Thursday.

Bill Morris twirled his second straight shutout and John Green bashed a pair of doubles as the Cougars boosted their record to 10-2.

Challenging Redondo is second at 9-3 with Leuzinger third at 8-4. Following are Santa Monica (7-6), Mira Costa (6-6), Morningside (5-6), South (5-8), North (2-9), and Inglewood (2-10).

Longden Enters Four-and-Twenty

Four-and-Twenty, a leading candidate for such Hollywood Park classics as the \$162,100 Hollywood Gold Cup and the \$100,000 added Californian, tops a 13-horse stable which Trainer Vance Longden has checked in for the meeting opening May 9.

YMCA Trackmen Set New Records

Sixteen Torrance YMCA records fell last weekend when hundreds of boys and their parents came to Narbonne High for the seventh annual Gra-Y and Jr. Hi-Y track meets.

Ringing up 34½ points, the Jaguars won the championship for the Y clubs serving boys nine to 12 years old. Next were the Vikings with 32½ points followed by the Big Horns, and the Mustangs in the 16 teams entered.

The Tornados earned 41 points to win the 12-14-year-old division. The Dukes were second with 33½ points followed by the Pythons in third, just one and one-half points back.

NEW RECORDS in the Gray-Y A division came from Gerry Little of the Jaguars, 13-6 seconds for the 100-yard dash; Chris Wilson of the Jaguars, 13-8 for the broad jump; Jay Cloud of the Jaguars, 26-1 for the eight-pound shot put; and Dan Anderson of the Wahoos, 172-feet in the softball throw.

In the C division, Robert

Torrance Herald Sports

6 GREGG PETERSON, Sports Editor APRIL 28, 1963

Tartar Nine Out Of 'Show' Battle

Unstoppable Culver City knocked Torrance out of a possible second place in the Pioneer League baseball race, but enhanced its own chances for a possible league crown on Thursday.

Culver City, defending its circuit crown, sewed up its sixth win in the last seven starts with eight runs in the initial two frames.

Converted third-baseman Joe Bogan took care of the Tartar offense by spinning a neat two hitter.

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Four-and-Twenty, Hollywood Derby winner of two seasons ago, is joined in the Longden contingent by his Alberta Ranches stablemate Flutterby and Mrs. Pat Longden's Prince's Sis, another pair of stakes hopefuls.

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North, South Go at Micohi

Months of gruelling work and skin-tight duel meets will be put on the line Tuesday by North and South track teams in the Bay League preliminaries at Mira Costa High School. Events will begin at 1 p.m. in preparation for Friday night's finals on the same oval.

Grossman Tops West In Victory

It would be hard to say that Richard Grossman is not the driving force behind West High's baseball success.

When the senior catcher was injured in a home-plate collision, the Warriors lost all hope of the Pioneer League championship and went into a terrible tailspin.

Suddenly Grossman is back in the lineup and once again West is a diamond terror.

ON THURSDAY, Grossman personally ripped two home runs, accounting for four RBIs to pace the Warriors to an 8-6 triumph over Lennox.

Before he suffered the concussion in the Culver City game, Grossman was hitting .444, but lost his touch upon returning and went 0-7 before Thursday.

North Snares Diamond Tie

When Lennox had moved out to a 2-0 lead, Grossman belted a two-run homer to knot the count. Again in the fourth frame, with the Lancers ahead, 4-2, Grossman duplicated the feat and sparked a rally which led to the win.

Jerry Colen, Dick Buchanan, and Dave LaRoche also accounted for West runs.

Although he had to have relief help from LaRoche, Tim Sparks chalked up his first mound win of the season for the Warriors in his initial start.

WEST WILL tangle with red-hot Culver City on Tuesday at 3 p.m. on the Warrior diamond. Battling for a second-place finish, the defending league champs have won six of their last seven games, including an 11-0 rout of Torrance on Thursday.

After a sensational early-season beginning, the Redskins have slipped to sixth place with a 6-6 record. After a miserable beginning, Culver has rallied for a 7-4 record for third place.



HERE IS HOW . . . YMCA leader Richard Grossman shows Tommy Basen of the Diamond's Gra-Y Club the proper form for putting the shot. The demonstration was part of last week's track meet in which 16 Torrance YMCA spike marks were shattered at Narbonne High School.



TAKE IT QUICK . . . Members of the Torrance Diamond's Gra-Y Club pass the baton in one of the relay races held at Narbonne High last weekend under the sponsorship of the Torrance Family YMCA. More than 100 people witnessed the youths go through their paces in the annual meet.